A True NARRATIVE OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF His Majesties PRIVY-COUNCIL IN SCOTLAND,

For Securing the PEACE of that KINGDOM,

In the Year 1678.

Publiſhed by Authority.

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A true Narrative of the Proceedings of His Majesties *Privy Council in* Scotland, *for Securing the Peace of that Kingdom, in* Anno 1678.

THere can nothing be ſo unpleaſant to His *Majeſties* Judicatures, as to puniſh; nor for honeſt Men than to publiſh the errours of their own Country-men: And though the Fatal Conſequences which did lately follow upon the like Diſtempers, may create in all thinking Men an extraordinary abhorrence of ſuch courſes; yet ſince ſuch as find no Safety but in the common Diſtractions, and no pleaſure ſave in the Univerſal Confuſions of both State and Church, have ſo ſucceſsfully poiſoned ſome, and endeavoured ſo induſtriouſly to poiſon many of His *Majeſties* other Subjects in all His Dominions: It is hoped that a true Narrative of thoſe Proceedings will not be unwelcome.

It is too well known how after that Epiſcopacy was eſtabliſhed by Authority, in both Kingdoms, as that Government which was moſt agreeable to the Word of God, and the practice of the Primitive Church, and ſuited beſt with Monarchy; ſome factious perſons here did much diſturb the Reign of that wiſe Prince King *James*, and overthrew the Government under that pious Prince King *Charles* the Firſt; in which Rebellion, (that grew up by plauſible degrees, too like our preſent proceedings) under the ſpecious diſguiſes of Liberty and Religion, GOD puniſhed us ſo appoſitely, that thoſe Parliaments which luſted ſo after boundleſs Liberty, were abſolutely turned out from any ſhare in the Government, and that new-modell'd Church, which violently graſped at, even all the Civil Government was rent in pieces by its own vi-

perous brood the Remonſtrators, and fell from having any eſteem with thoſe Uſurpers whom they had raiſed.

Theſe Diſorders did firſt take riſe, and had their chief maintenance from ſome *Weſtern* Shires in this Kingdom, who having been the chief Actors in every Scene of that Bloody and Tragical Rebellion, were ſo far from wearying or repenting of having oppoſed their Native Prince, that they perſecuted both in Church and State, ſuch of their former Aſſociates as reſolved to return to their Duty, and to hazard all in Reſcuing their King from that impriſonment, which they well foreſaw was the firſt ſtep to the Scaffold: and thoſe Rebels being inflamed at a Communion in *Machlan*, they moſt rebelliouſly fought againſt His *Majeſties* beſt Troops; and after that worthy attempt, for reſcuing His *Majeſty* from His Impriſonment, 1648. was diſappointed, they did again form their own Tenents in an Army, and therewith Invade and Plunder the *Louthians* and other adjacent Shires; and ſuch as were weary of the inſolence of that Party, having called home our preſent Monarch, theſe Shires, to diſappoint the oppoſition made to *Cromwel*, drew a Remonſtrance, and divided from His *Majeſties* Forces, and declared by an Act at the *Weſt-Kirk*, That if His *Majeſty* would not grant the Conceſſions then propoſed to Him, and whereby all His Prerogatives were to be ſcru'd from Him, they would not own His Government. And GOD having ſuffered His *Majeſties* Armies to be beat at *Worceſter*, theſe Remonſtrators did by all poſſible Inſinuations endeavour to gain the Uſurpers favour, and did perſecute ſuch as had owned His *Majeſty* whilſt he was in *Scotland*.

Here followeth the ſaid Act of the *Weſt-Kirk*.

Weſt-Kirk the 13 day of *Auguſt*, 1650.

THe Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, conſidering that there may be juſt ground of ſtumbling from the Kings Majeſties refuſing to ſubſcribe and emit the Declaration offered unto Him by the Committee of Eſtates, and Commiſſioners of the General Aſſembly, concerning his former Carriage and Reſolu-

tions

tions for the future, in reference to the Cauſe of God, and the Enemies and Friends thereof; Doth therefore declare, That this Kirk and Kingdom do not own nor eſpouſe any Malignant Party, or Quarrel, or Intereſt, but that they fight meerly upon their former Grounds and Principles, and in defence of the Cauſe of God, and of the Kingdom, as they have done theſe twelve years paſt: And therefore, as they do diſclaim all the Sin and Guilt of the KING *and of his Houſe; So they will not own Him, nor His Intereſt, otherwiſe than with a Subordination to God, and ſo far as he owns and proſecutes the Cauſe of God, and diſclaims His and His Fathers Oppoſition to the Work of God, and to the Covenant, and likewiſe all the Enemies thereof: And that they will with convenient ſpeed take in Conſideration the Papers lately ſent unto them from* OLIVER CROMWEL, *and vindicate themſelves from all the Falſhoods contained therein, eſpecially in thoſe things, wherein the Quarrel betwixt us and that party is miſ-ſtated, as if we owned the late Kings Proceedings, and were reſolved to proſecute and maintain His preſent Majeſties Intereſt, before and without acknowledgment of the Sins of His Houſe and former ways, and Satisfaction to Gods People in both Kingdoms.*

A. Ker.

13 of *Auguſt*, 1650.

THe Committee of Eſtates having ſeen and conſidered a Declaration of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly anent the ſtating of the Quarrel whereon the Army is to fight, do approve the ſame, and heartily concur therein.

Tho. Henderſon.

Printed in the Year 1650.

After

After His *Majesties* Restauration, which GOD had made so miraculous, to confute the insolent Appeals which those people had always made to his extraordinary Providence, and to disappoint the expectations of that party, who resolved to burden His return with such Concessions as they had formerly extorted in *Anno* 1650. His *Majesty* and His Parliament, as the Representatives of the Nation, did unanimously restore Episcopacy, but so moderately, that no sober man could complain; and though many of a different Perswasion, deserted their Charge in the Ministry, yet all, save some Remonstrators, frequented the Ordinances, and lived most peaceably; but the chief of those moderate men dying, some Remonstrators, who were irreclaimable, fearing the Schism might die out, admitted some young men to the Ministry, contrary to the Principle of their own Assemblies, which condemned *Ministeria vaga*, and contrary to the expres Laws of this Kingdom, which make these punishable by death; and they, with the help of these hot-headed young men, having inflamed some of their old Western Friends (for it cannot be denied, but there are very honest and loyal persons in those Shires) into a Rebellion in *Anno* 1666. whilst His *Majesty* was, as they conceived, unable to oppose both them, and those foreign Enemies, with whom he was engaged then in a dangerous War, it pleased GOD to bless His *Majesty* with a total Victory over them: But yet His *Majesty*, whose Clemency is as extraordinary as His Restauration, was so far from pursuing His Victory with Revenge, that he yielded to the importunate Intercession of those who promised, That the Indulging some Parishes in the West, to have Ministers of their own Perswasion, would settle all those distempers: And though His *Majesty* was pleased to try this, and all other means of reclaiming those Shires, and to bestow upon those Ministers the Salary due only by Law to the Orthodox Clergy, yet those of that Party, finding their Rebellion so successful, concluded, That the same force, which had procured that, might procure more, and so they established new and flying Rendezvouses of Rebellion, called *Field-Conventicles*, in which, under pretext of Preaching, all lawless and disaffected persons, got constant occasions of assembling themselves, and adjusting their malicious designs, and of infusing into the people (in such remote places, far from the observation of all wise and judicious men) whatever their Malice could suggest against the King, his Laws and Goverment, and from which, as the true Nurseries of Rebellion, it was most easie for them to form and model themselves into Armies,

Armies, when thoſe deſigns were fully ripened, as they had formerly done in *Anno* 1666. which Rebellion was but a running and continued Field-Conventicle, fed conſtantly by ſuch as came to hear their Miniſters, who then governed them, preach upon that long March. They having in a Field-Conventicle at the *Glenkens* kept their firſt Rendezvous, from which they ſent a Party to *Dumfries*, and ſurprized a part of His *Majeſties* Forces, and thence having gone to another Field-Conventicle in *Cumnock*, they proceeded to others at *Aire*, *Kilmarnock*, *Machlen*, *Strevin*, *Lanerk*; after which they Conventicl'd on to *Pentland*, where, by their being beat, this Kingdom was reſtored to its former Peace and Quiet: And in which Field-Conventicles, the Covenant, which is condemned as treaſonable by the Law, was conſtantly preached up, and people taken upon Oath, bound by it to reform *England* and *Ireland*, as well as *Scotland*, and to bring all Delinquents to condign puniſhment: nor was the Church and all Chriſtian Diſcipline, in leſs danger from them, for the people were led out to hear ſuch as for fear of revealing, they were obliged not to know; and ſo *Jeſuites*, *Anabaptiſts*, and any Sectary might have ſecurely poſſeſt thoſe ignorant Creatures with what they pleaſed, and frequently did ſo; and theſe poor people being once alienated from the Church and its Diſcipline, found therein a ſweet Liberty of ſtaying from all Churches, and of being ſubject to no Diſcipline.

Upon which Conſiderations, the King, by Act of Parliament, did wiſely declare, theſe Field-Conventicles to be Rendezvouſes of Rebellion, the Miniſter to be puniſhable by Death, and the Hearers by proportionable Fines: notwithſtanding of all which, and that ſuch Meetings are deſtructive to all Government, unknown to, and unallowed by any Chriſtian Society, and preached againſt by the ſober part of their own Principles; yet thoſe wild Hill-Preachers, did ſtill continue and heighten their fury to that degree, that ſuch of their own party as took Indulgences from the Council, were railed at, and in diſdain, called *Council-Curates*; and ſuch as Officiated under Biſhops, were frequently robb'd and aſſaulted in their own Houſes, and threatned with ſuch probable cruelties, that they were forced to relinquiſh their Charge. And to poſſeſs the People with a belief of their Eſtabliſhment, they, contrary to expreſs Laws, kept Presbyteries, Synods, and other Aſſemblies, entertained correſpondence with the diſaffected Subjects of His *Majeſties* other Kingdoms, and kept armed Men as Guards for their Ring-leaders, Preaching in all places the Lawfulneſs of Reſiſting the Civil Magiſtrate;

Magiſtrate; the Unlawfulneſs of taking the Oath of Allegiance; that Epiſcopacy was Anti-Chriſtian, all who owned them were Perjured, and Enemies to CHRIST; and the Parliaments and Laws by which they were Eſtabliſhed were Impious and Sacrilegious. And to convince the World, what might have been expected from theſe, if they had prevailed, let any man read thoſe Books Printed by them, wherein at their loweſt Ebb, they invite all men to oppoſe Authority, as to a Duty to which they were in the Covenant obliged upon Oath, and to kill all ſuch as ſerved His *Majeſty*, by the example of *Phineas*; which Books poiſoned ſo far thoſe whom their former Principles had prepared, that ſome of them adventured even to aſſault His *Majeſties* Counſellors upon the chief Streets of His chief City here, and in the face of the Sun; and having in cold Blood maintained it, and died juſtifying it, are to this day numbred amongſt their beſt Martyrs.

Theſe Enemies of all Order waiting all Opportunities that might diſtract, or add to the other Diſtractions of their Native Country, finding in *Anno* 1674, that ſome Members of Parliament had in ſeveral things controverted His *Majeſties* Authority, and differed from His Miniſters, they immediately flew out in *Fyffe* and other Shires, to ſuch heights, that they dar'd to Uſurp ſome Pulpits even in *Edinburgh*, and to Convocate in great numbers about the doors of His *Majeſties* Privy Council, with moſt inſolent Petitions, tracing carefully the execrable ſteps of our former Rebellion. But His *Majeſties* Prudence and the care of His Privy Council, having Quaſhed thoſe appearances, His *Majeſties* Authority did for ſome time over-awe, though not reclaim them: But hearing that His *Majeſty* was like to be involved in a new Foreign War, they again aſſembled in mighty numbers in *October* and *November* 1677, and did violently invade the Pulpits, and Perſons of the Orthodox Clergy, and ſo threaten all with ſudden and great Revolutions, and reſiſted ſo frequently and inſolently ſuch as came to them in His *Majeſties* Name, killing ſome, and wounding many, that the Privy Council thought it neceſſary to write to the Sheriffs of thoſe Shires, to require an account of their diligence in repreſſing ſuch Diſorders, who informed them, that they could not get either Officers to cite the Offenders, nor Men to buy their Goods that were Diſtrained, and that their numbers and contumacy were ſuch that they deſpaired of all Succeſs: and even the Council found that ſuch as were Cited before them, contemned ſtill their Citations, and by conſtant abſences added to the former number of Rebels. Nor was it poſſible to repreſs thoſe Field-Conventicles,

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by Legal Proceſſes, both becauſe the far greateſt part had nothing to pay, and ſo feared not the payment of thoſe Fines impoſed by Law, and it was impoſſible to diſcover who were preſent at them, becauſe they ſtopt by armed men any from coming near them, who were not of their own Principles. Whereupon the Council finding all the ordinary legal courſes fail, they wrote to the Commiſſioners of Exciſe, and Juſtices of Peace, of the Shires of *Air*, and *Renfrew*, which did comprehend moſt of the Nobility and Gentry of thoſe Shires, and Invited and Impowered them to take ſuch courſes as might ſecure the Peace of the Kingdom, and His *Majeſties* other good Subjects, againſt the Jealouſies and Fears ariſing from ſuch Tumultuary and Illegal Convocations: To which, they, in a full Meeting, and after much deliberation, returned as an anſwer, That thoſe Diſorders had ſpread ſo far, and were ſo deeply rooted, that they thought it impoſſible either to ſettle the Country, or anſwer for their Tenants, except the King would allow them a new Indulgence. Which anſwer, coming after the Councils Letters to other Shires of the like Tenor, were ready to be diſpatched, they ſtopp'd the ſame, fearing that the example of thoſe Shires might draw in their Neighbours into the like Combination. And it being propoſed in Council, Whether it was fit to ſend unto thoſe Shires the few ſtanding Forces of this Kingdom; It was urged by many, and very ſtrongly, That the Commons there had ſo ſhaken off all Reſpect to Authority, that they might probably diſarm thoſe few Forces, and thereby both diſable the King to make any defence, and force themſelves for maintaining that Guilt, to join all of their Party in an open Rebellion. Whereupon it was thought fitter to arm ſome of His *Majeſties* Militia-Regiments; and the Marqueſs of *Athol* firſt, and then others having offered their *High-land-men*, this was thought leſs Expenſive, and might prove more Formidable; and therefore was choſen by the Council, who had reſolved with as little Expence as could be to the Innocent Shires, (for the Militia of theſe only could be armed) to fright thoſe Irregular Shires into an intire Submiſſion to His *Majeſties* Laws, conceiving that it was much more kind and prudent to prevent early, and by one ſingle Expence, the Increaſe of thoſe Rebellious Principles and Practiſes which were daily ripening towards an open Rebellion, in which the whole Nation might have wiſhed, but in vain, that it had Redeemed it ſelf by ſo ſhort and ſmall an Expence, from the payment of ſuch vaſt Sums, and the ruine of ſo many thouſands as

fell in the late unhappy Wars, and to which they found thoſe Diſorders leading by the ſame fatal ſteps.

A Proclamation was alſo iſſued out in His *Majeſties* Name, Diſcharging all Noblemen, and Gentlemen, not to remove without Orders from the Council during this Service; which as it has been conſtantly practiſed in *Scotland*, ſo it was neceſſary at this time both to reſtrain ſuch as might abſent themſelves from His *Majeſties* Service at that exigent, and to retain ſuch within the Kingdom, as ſhould be found obliged to ſecure the peace, it being moſt ordinary for ſuch as judged themſelves obnoxious, to retire whilſt His *Majeſties* Forces were upon the place, and then return when they were gone; whereas upon the other hand, it was eaſie to ſeek a Warrand, and none was ever refuſed to ſuch as offered probable Reaſons, which might take off the ſuſpition of their going away to elude to the Proclamation: His *Majeſties* Forces being aſſembled, it was reſolved, That they ſhould diſarm thoſe Shires, a courſe formerly taken by the Council in the like caſe, in *March* 1667. by the ſame perſons who now complain, whilſt they themſelves were Counſellors, and leading men, and which is, by our expreſs Laws, a part of our Kings Prerogative. And in the next place, a Bond was offered, wherein every Heretor was obliged to anſwer for himſelf, his Wife, and his Children, under the penalties expreſt in the Acts of Parliament, made by the univerſal conſent of the whole Nation, which obliges a man to anſwer for the Delinquencies of his Wife and Children. So that ſuch as object, That no man can be anſwerable for his Wife or Children, or for any except himſelf, do either not underſtand our Law, or do maliciouſly endeavour to perſwade the people, that our Laws are unjuſt: and it is obſervable in all thoſe Fifth-Monarchy-Presbyterians, that where Law can be any way wreſted, they make much noiſe of Laws and Cuſtoms; but where that cannot be ſo debaucht, they cry out againſt them as impious, and not binding. The Bond did likewiſe oblige the Maſters, either to pay the Fines of their Tenants, or to remove them after they were found guilty of contraveening His *Majeſties* Laws, or elſe to preſent them when called for by His *Majeſties* Judicatures, which was alſo moſt eaſie: For ſince theſe Alternatives were in every mans power, and ſince the Council judged this the only expedient for ſecuring the publick Peace, and that it had been formerly practiſed in *October* 1666. even by Such as now ſhun to ſubſcribe this Bond, though in that Proclamation iſſued out by them,

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all were commanded and charged under the pain of Rebellion, whereas this Bond was only offered, and which Proclamation was much more ample and ſevere, as the Proclamation hereto annexed can clear. It is ſtrange that any man ſhould refuſe to contribute all that is in his power, to eſtabliſh peace where there is ſuch hazard of troubles; and the reaſon why this Expedient was thought on, was becauſe the Council was not able to know, nor purſue every private Tenant or Servant: but theſe knowing that their Maſters were bound, and the Maſters knowing that they might be overtaken, this would make both very circumſpect; and yet the penalties were only theſe to which the Tenents were liable, by expreſs Acts of Parliament: and in the laſt Bond, all was ſweetned by the former eaſie Alternatives; and by the firſt Act of the third Seſſion of His *Majeſties* firſt Parliament, the Parliament foreſeeing, that new methods would certainly be invented of diſappointing the Remedies propoſed in that Statute; and that it was not neceſſary, and would be expenſive to convene Parliaments upon all ſuch occaſions. They therefore Impowered the Council to inflict, not only the penalties therein mentioned, but ſuch other corporal puniſhments as they ſhould think fit, and to do every thing that they ſhould find neceſſary for procuring Obedience to that Act made by them againſt Separation and Diſobedience to the Eccleſiaſtical Government, and which Power was indeed very proper to the Council, to whom by our Law the adminiſtration of the Government is intruſted under His *Majeſty*, and which Act they thought a ſufficient Warrant of the Proclamation *1666.* for obliging the Subjects to give Bonds, and for denounceing of ſuch as refuſed, and declaring their Leaſes null: Whereas the Bond now is but only offered, and by the Paper ſubjoined to this Narrative, it will clearly appear, that this Council was obliged by the practiſes of ſuch as now complain, to do all that they have done, and was more neceſſary now than then, ſince theſe *Weſtern-Shires* had not then riſen in Rebellion, before *October 1666.* and Field-Conventicles were not then ſo numerous, whereas now they are declared, The Rendezvouſes of Rebellion: and how could this Council be anſwerable to ſuffer ten times more than His *Majeſties* ſtanding Forces to be aſſembled in arms weekly, and in deſpite of Law? Or what Nation under the Heaven does ſuffer the like?

Yet this Bond was not preſs'd, but ſuch as refuſed it when offered, were therby thought to have given juſt reaſon of ſuſpition: and therefore

as any private man may upon presumptions crave Surety from another, that they shall not trouble them; so the Council did justly crave this Legal Surety, called *Lawborrows*, from those who refused this Bond, which security is consonant to all Law; and that the State have formerly sought the same as well as private men upon presumptions, and are still warranted to do so, is clear by *3. Act. 2. P. Ja. 2.* Nor are two years rent too great a penalty, for though in private cases the pain or sum be small, because there every Justice of Peace may exact the same, yet in extraordinary cases the pains have still been commensurate to the occasion, by the Privy Council and Justice-Court, as is undeniable; nor can there be any Security, where there is not a commensuration betwixt the Surety and the Hazard: and who can deny that two years valued Rent, (which amounts to little more than one years true Rent) is too great Security for the Peace of King and Kingdom: for if the Giver of that Security does his diligence, and lives peaceably, he pays nothing; and if he will not, he can never pay too much where the hazard is so great.

These Forces having marched, the Council by Warrant from the King, ordered them to take free Quarter, not absolutely, but according as the Council or Committee should allow: nor gave they ever absolute Order for free Quarter, but on the contrary they ordained all such as should secure the Peace, to be freed from Quartering, and that the Fines of the Delinquents should be employed for paying the Forces, who voluntarily contributed their assistance; but it was fit to insert free Quarter in the Commissions, because many emergent accidents might have made the same necessary. And the King having been put to raise Forces upon the foresaid tract of disobedience, and after all ordinary courses and remedies had failed; could there be any thing more just, than that those who justified the foresaid presumptions against themselves, in not finding Surety for the Peace, should have been the first advancers, and Quartered those Forces, than that those Quarters should have been payed by the innocent Shires, who sent out the Militia, or by those who voluntarily assisted and rais'd, and brought their Forces upon their own Expences? And to shew that the King resolved to take no advantage in this Quartering, but to ease the Innocent, His *Majesties* own standing Forces payed daily every farthing; It is likewise offered to the Consideration of all who understand our Government, Whether it can be denied, but that the Kings of *Scotland* had

had ever the Power to raiſe Forces for Quaſhing, even the appearances of Inſurrections, for it were too late to prevent them when they are raiſed, and they never having a conſtant Caſh, nor any ſuitable allowance for this effect, they conſtantly Quartered freely ſuch as were raiſed upon that account; nor was this ever Quarrelled till now. And as the Council of *Scotland* never aſſerted, That free Quarter was lawful in time of Peace; ſo no reaſonable man can deny, but that it is fit and neceſſary in time of trouble, or preſumption of ſpilling the Country by unreaſonable and unruleful men, to raiſe the Country, as the Act of Parliament aforeſaid expreſly bears; and when raiſed, was it ever controverted, that thoſe Countries which gave occaſion for that raiſing of Forces, ſhould entertain them, there being no Fond or ready Caſh deſtinated by our Parliaments for that effect? And ſince by the 25th *Act* of the third Seſſion of the firſt Parliament of King *CHARLES* the II. the Parliament does beſides the Militia, give a power to the Council to Diſpoſe and Manage that whole Affair, ſo as may beſt make the offer there made of their Lives and Fortunes moſt effectual, and declare that they will hazard their Lives and Fortunes, as they ſhall be called for by His *Majeſty*, for the Safety and Preſervation of His Sacred Perſon, Authority and Government, how can any good Subject deny ſo ſmall an aſſiſtance to His *Majeſty*, when His Authority was ſo baffled and indangered, and where nothing was called for to His *Majeſties* private uſe and advantage, but meerly for their own ſafety and preſervation? And albeit it may be too well argued, that thoſe Shires were in a ſtate of Rebellion, Field-Conventicles being declared by our Law Rendezvouſes of Rebellion, but there were not only ſuch Field-Conventicles as were puniſhable by pecunial ſums, but Convocations of the people in arms, not accidentally or infrequently, but frequently and avowedly, and under the conduct of many Miniſters, who were either declared Traitors for being in that Rebellion in arms, *Anno* 1666. or being declared Rebels by legal Sentences, ſince were Intercommuned by open Proclamations, and who in all Countries kept correſpondency, and renewed the treaſonable Oath of the Covenant, railing againſt the King, His Laws and Servants, and after expreſs Commands and Proclamations, diſcharging ſuch Meetings, as tending to overthrow the Government of Church and State: And is not this ſuch a degree of Rebellion, at leaſt as when all Remedies failed, might have allowed quartering in ſuch Shires, as entertained theſe Rendezvouſes of Rebellion without any oppoſition?

oppoſition? Yet ſuch was the Clemency of our Gracious Prince, and ſuch the Moderation of His Council, as that they ordained the Quarters to be payed out of the Fines of the Delinquents, and that all ſuch as offered to ſecure the Peace, ſhould have none quartered in their Land; and albeit it is impoſſible to convocate ſo many men without ſome irregularities, yet ſo ſtrict Inſtructions were given by the Council, and ſo great care was taken by the Committee and Officers, that fewer were committed from ſo great Numbers than could have been expected, and none were ever complained of to the Council or their Committee, which were not redreſſed, and the Clamours are raiſed by ſuch only as reſolve to caſt an *Odium* upon all that ſerve His *Majeſty*; and yet the Clamours againſt what is done in the Weſt, are much greater in *Edinburgh* than in the Shires, who are ſaid to have ſuffered, and greater at *London* than in *Edinburgh*, it might well be expected, that theſe Shires which had taken free Quarter themſelves, without any juſt Quarrel or Order, would not quarrel that Quarter which had the King and Councils Order for its Warrant, and their own guilt for its occaſion. But ſuch Murmurers ought to conſider, that by ſo doing, they diſcourage others for the future to aſſiſt the King freely, which is great unkindneſs to the King, and obliges the King to require a ſuitable ſtanding Force, which deſerves little kindneſs from the Country, and that all this noiſe tends to leſſen our ſecurity, and to heighten the expectations of ſuch as reſolve to rebel, and by ſuch lyes, the laſt Rebellion was from a Spark blown to a Flame.

Whereas ſome aſſert, That the Council could not legally garriſon the houſes of private perſons; The anſwer is eaſie, for it were ſtrange, that our King ſhould have the ordering of Peace and War, and yet might not garriſon houſes, when he ſees great preſumptions of Rebellion and Trouble, having no Forts nor Garriſons in thoſe Shires, maintained upon the charge of our Nation, nor were any houſes garriſoned here, ſave where the Proprietors refuſed to ſecure the Peace, or were found guilty of breaking it, or had other houſes wherein they dwelt conveniently: and albeit the Commiſſioners of Exciſe were deſired to furniſh them with neceſſaries, yet theſe were to be repaired by the King, who could not make preſent preparations of ſuch neceſſaries, without the aſſiſtance of ſuch as lived in thoſe Shires, and Bond was given for the re-payment: Our Gracious King and His Council here, have never perſecuted tender Conſciences, puniſhing only ſuch as not content

to

to ſerve God in a ſober way, inflamed their Native Country with their irregular Zeal; and it is expected, that ſuch as reflect upon what has been lately done by the King and His Council, ſhould firſt remember the lamentable Miſeries, into which this Nation was thrown by ſuch, and even milder beginnings and actors; our Property diſpoſed of arbitrarily by Committees, our Perſons dragg'd to Priſons and Scaffolds, for obeying thoſe whom it had been Treaſon to diſobey; our Nobility and Gentry, inſulted over by every little Miniſter, and his own Tenents in Kirk Seſſions; our Parliament made ridiculous and ineffectual by their general Aſſemblies; and if the Council had ſuffered ſuch Practices to grow up unto open Rebellion, had not our Neighbour Nation, as well as our own, juſt reaſon to have condemned our clemency to theſe, as cruelty to them, and to demonſtrate that Perſons, not Things, are aimed at in theſe Miſ-informations? It is moſt obſervable, that His *Majeſties* own Officers, as Sheriffs, and others who ought to have oppoſed, are thoſe who complain moſt of the Oppoſition made to thoſe Diſorders, that have been foſtered up by their negligence or connivance; and that when the King or Council do any thing to ſoften or reclaim theſe imbittered and humorous Creatures, it is cryed out againſt as Indulgence; and when they do the leaſt thing to reſtrain them, it is railed at by the ſame Authors as Tyranny: But ſince ſome in our Nation could not, nor yet cannot, be quiet under the kind and gentle Government of King *JAMES*, King *CHARLES* the Firſt, and our preſent *Monarch*; and whilſt the remembrance of our late Diſtractions are yet freſh with us, what can be expected from ſuch perſons and principles in after Ages?

Some, of very many Papers extracted out of the Registers of Privy Council, to ſhew what was the Practice of the then Council in ſuch Caſes, and what was their Opinion of thoſe Weſtern-Shires, and of the Acts of Parliament now founded on; all which Papers are ſubſcribed by the greateſt Lawyers who then were, and by the moſt eminent of thoſe who now complain, when they are no more Counſellors themſelves; and which may clear to all the World, that thoſe who are now Counſellors, were by their determination and practice, obliged as well as warranted, to do what they have now done.

THere being a Committee of Council named, upon the ninth of *October* 1666. conſiſting of the Archbiſhop of *Glaſgow*, the Duke of *Hamilton*, the Earl of *Linlithgow*, Sir *John Gilmore*, Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, Sir *Archibald Primroſe*, Lord Regiſter, and Sir *John Nisbet* Lord Advocate; they brought in the enſuing Proclamation, which was emitted the eleventh of *October* 1666. and which became the Foundation thereafter of all Obligations, laid by the Council upon Heretors and Maſters, to anſwer for their Tenents and Servants, and the Act of Parliament there cited, is deduced in the Preface of the Proclamation as a ſufficient Warrant for the Council to fine, confine, and puniſh corporally all who ſeparate from, or diſobey Eccleſiaſtical Authority, and in which the Council then Ordains, ſuch as refuſe the Bond to be charged, and denounced, Tenents to be removed, and their Tacks to be declared null without Proceſs at Law, and many other things very obſervable; which the Lords abovenamed, and many others do ſubſcribe the Warrant.

A Proclamation for Obedience to Eccleſiaſtical Authority.

Edinburgh, *the* 11 *day of* October, 1666.

CHARLES, By the Grace of GOD, King of *Great Britain, France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, To Macers of Our Privy Council, and Meſſengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, Greeting. Forasmuch as by the firſt Act of the third Seſſion of Our late Parliament, Entituled, *An Act againſt Separation and Diſobedience*

to Eccleſiaſtical Authority, it is recommended to the Lords of Our Privy Council, to take ſpeedy and effectual courſe that the ſaid Act, injoyning Obedience to the Government of the Church, as it is now ſetled by Law, receive due and ready Obedience from all Subjects; with Power to them to diſcern and inflict ſuch cenſures, penalties, and corporal puniſhments, as they ſhall think fit, upon the Controveners, and direct all execution neceſſary, for making the ſame effectual, and to do every other thing needful for procuring Obedience to the ſaid Act, and putting the ſame to punctual execution, conform to the tenor and intent thereof. And by divers other Acts of Parliament and Council, made againſt Papiſts, Quakers, and other diſaffected perſons, they are commanded, under great pains and penalties, to frequent the Ordinances, in hearing Sermon, and partaking of the Sacraments, and all other acts of publick Worſhip at their own Pariſh Churches, and not to keep any private Meetings or Conventicles: Nevertheleſs, the ſaid Acts have not received that vigorous execution and obedience in ſome parts of the Kingdom, which might have been given, if Maſters of Families, Heretors, and Landlords in the Country, and Magiſtrates within Burghs-Royal, had been careful and zealous in their ſtations in procuring obedience from their Servants, Tenents and Inhabitants over whom they have power and juriſdiction: So that it is more than high time to prevent the increaſe and ſpreading of theſe diſorders, which by evil example, might poiſon and infect theſe that are yet ſound in their Principles, and well-affected to Our Government. Our Will is herefore, and We charge you ſtraitly and command, that incontinent, theſe Our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Mercat-croſs of *Edinburgh*, remanent head Burghs of the ſeveral Shires and other places needful, and there, by open Proclamation, in Our Name and Authority, command and charge all Maſters of Families, that they cauſe their Domeſtick Servants, Grieves, Chamberlains, and others entertained by them, to give Obedience to Our Laws aforeſaid, and Acts of Council; and particularly that they frequent the publick Worſhip and Ordinances at their own Pariſh-Churches, and participate of the Sacraments, and abſtain from all Conventicles and private Meetings, and that they retain none in their ſervice but ſuch as they will be anſwerable for; and in caſe of their diſobedience, that they remove them out of ther ſervice immediately after intimation thereof by the Miniſter of the Pariſh: As alſo, that all Heretors, Landlords, and Life-renters, who have granted any Tacks or Rentals to their Tenents, which are yet ſtanding unexpired, cauſe their Tenents and Rentallers give ſufficient Bond and Surety for obeying the ſaid Acts of Parliament and Council, and ſpecially for frequenting publick Worſhip and Ordinances, as ſaid is, and abſtaining from private Meetings; and if need be, that they raiſe Letters under the Signet of Our Privy Council, and charge them, for that effect, upon ſix days, and in caſe of diſobedience, to denounce them to Our Horn, and regiſtrate the ſame; for which end, warrant is given to direct Letters in their name againſt all and ſundry their Tenents and Rentallers: And We do declare, that We will give and beſtow the Eſcheats falling to Us by the ſaid Hornings, upon the Landlords and Setters of theſe Tacks and Rentals, in ſo far as may be extended thereto; recommending hereby to Our Treaſurer-principal and Treaſurer-deputy, and others of Our Exchequer, to grant the ſame accordingly: And in caſe the Tenents be removeable, and refuſe to give Obedience, that they warn and purſue them to remove, and obtain Decreets of Ejection againſt them; and that no Heretor, Landlord, or Life-renter, ſet their Lands hereafter to any perſon, by Word or Writ, but to ſuch as they will be anſwerable for, as ſaid is; and that they take ſurety from them by proviſions and obligements to be inſert in their Tacks, or otherways by Bond apart, in caſe there be no Writ, that the ſaid Tackſmen, Rentallers, and all others their Hinds, Cottars and Servants, who ſhall live under them upon the ſaid Lands, ſhall give Obedience in manner aforeſaid; otherways, that their Tacks, Rentals, and whole Intereſt, Right and Poſſeſſion ſhall be void and expire, *ipſo facto*, as if they had never been granted, and that without any Declarator or farther Progreſs, and then as now, and now as then, that they ſhall renounce all Right that they ſhall have thereto and ſhall remove themſelves without any warning; and in caſe of failzie, the Landlords and others are to charge and denounce them in manner foreſaid As likewiſe, that all Magiſtrates of Royal Burroughs take ſpecial care and notice, and be anſwerable, that their Burgeſſes and Inhabitants be obedient to the aforeſaid Acts of Parliament and Council, and that they cauſe charge ſuch of them as they ſhall think fit and are ſuſpected, to give Bond and Surety, as ſaid is; and for the Magiſtrates own relief, in caſe they controvene; and if they failzie, to denounce them in man-

ner aforesaid: with certification, that all Masters of Families, Landlords and Magistrates of Burgh who shall not give punctual Obedience in manner above-written, that they shall be liable to th same pains and penalties due to the Controveners, but prejudice always of proceeding against th Controveners themselves, and inflicting the said pains, and all other pains contained in any A of Parliament or Council heretofore made against Papists, Quakers, and persons disobedien Certifying also all concerned, that the Lords of Our Privy Council will not only take special ca to secure the Publick Peace, but also to discover all secret attempts and designs to disturb th same, and to punish all persons that shall be found guilty, according to the quality of their o fence. And ordains these Presents to be printed and published, that none pretend ignorance.

A Proclamation for bringing in Arms out of some Western Shires

Edinburgh, the 25th of *March*, 1667.

CHARLES, By the Grace of GOD, King of *Great Britain*, *France* and *Ire land*, Defender of the Faith. To Our Lovits, Messengers, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and severally specially constitute, Greeting. Forasmuch as the late Rebellion, and rising in Arms i the Western Shires, is too great an evidence that there are many disaffected persons in these Pla ces, who are ready to involve the Kingdom again in a bloody and unnatural War: And that We have just reason to suspect that these Rebels will be ready to lay hold on this opportunity, to ris in Arms, when We are necessitate to continue the War with Our Foreign Enemies. And no only to make use of such Arms, Powder and Ammunition, as they have concealed, or may be transported to them from Our Enemies; but will seize upon the Arms of Our well-affected Sub jects, who reside amongst them, and are not able to make resistance: Which may endanger the Peace of the Kingdom, and weaken Our Forces, necessitating them at one time to oppose Foreign Invasions, and Intestine Commotions. As likewise, that according to their former wicked pra ctices, they may invade the Ministers of the Gospel, who are lawfully admitted Preachers amongst them, and do violence or injury to their persons, to the great contempt of Our Authority, and scandal of the Reformed Religion, as it is now profest. Therefore, We, with Advice of the Lords of Our Privy Council, Command and Charge all Persons residing within the Shires of *Lanerk*, *Air*, *Renfrew*, *Wigton*, and the Stewartry of *Kirkcudbright*, betwixt and the first day of *May* next, to bring in all their Arms and Ammunition which they have in their possession, of whatsoever sort (allowing Gentlemen only to carry Swords, and none other) to the Head Burgh of the respective Shires and Stewartry; and deliver the same to the Sheriff, his Deputy, or any having his Order. With Certification to them, if they fail, they shall be Fin'd by Our Secret Council in the Sums of Money underwritten; *viz.* Ilk Gentleman, in the Sum of two thousand Merks; and every other person, in the Sum of five hundred Merks; to be divided, the one half to be paid to Our Exchequer, and the other half to any person who shall first discover the Concealers: And further, shall be proceeded against as seditious persons, and disaffected to Our Government. Likeas, We ordain the said Sheriff, his Deputy, or any other appointed by him, immediately upon the delivery of their said Arms or Ammunition, to carry the same to *Striviling*, or *Dumbarton* Castles, which shall be next adjacent, there to be kept by the Governour thereof. As likewise, We Command and Charge, That all Heretors and Parishioners, residing in any of the Parishes within the said bounds, Protect and Defend the Persons, Families and Goods of their respective Ministers, within their several Parishes, from all Affronts and Injuries to be committed by insolent and disaffected Persons to the present Government; as well when they are in the Exercise of the Ministerial Function, as residing at their own Houses and Dwellings: With Certification, that if any Injury or Affront shall be done to them, in their Persons or Goods, that the Parishioners

who

who ſhall ſuffer the ſame to be done, and not oppoſe the doing thereof, ſhall be repute and holden as airt and part of the ſaid Crimes and Violence, and be proceeded againſt by Law, as guilty thereof, and puniſhed according to the quality of their offence, with all rigour. And in caſe the ſaid Injury ſhall be done by ſurprizal, that they follow and purſue the committers thereof, until they apprehend their Perſons, and preſent them to Our Secret Council, to be judged by them, as they ſhall order: otherwiſe We declare, That they themſelves ſhall be liable for ſuch Reparation, Damage and Intereſt, as the ſaid Lords of Council ſhall think fit to determine. And ordains the ſaid Sheriffs to cauſe intimate theſe Preſents, by Publick Proclamation, at the Mercat-Croſſes of the Head Burghs of the ſaid reſpective Shires and Stewartry; and cauſe read the ſame at all the Pariſh-Churches within the ſaid Shires and Stewartry, upon a *Sunday* before noon, after Divine Service, with all diligence: And that theſe Preſents be printed, that none pretend ignorance.

Hamilton,	*Annandale*,	*Dalyell*,	*Wauchope*,
Linlithgow,	*Drumlanerk*,	*W. Drummond*,	*Ch. Maitland.*
Dumfries,	*Bellenden*,	*Jo. Gilmour*,	

Upon the third of *September*, 1667. the Earl of *Rothes*, His *Majeſties* Commiſſioner, being preſent, a very frequent Council conſiſting of the Archbiſhops of St. *Andrews* and *Glaſgow*, the Duke of *Hamilton*, the Marquiſs of *Montroſe*, the Earls of *Kelly*, *Weems*, *Airly*, *Callender*, *Anandale*, *Tweddail*, *Kincardin*, and *Dundee*, the Lord *Drumlanerk*, now Earl of *Queensberry*, the Lords *Sinclair*, *Cochran*, *Bellenden*, General *Dalyell*, Lieutenat General *Drummond*, Sir *John Gilmor*, Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, Sir *Archibald Primroſe* Lord Regiſter, Sir *John Nisbet* Lord Advocate, the Lord Juſtice-Clerk, Sir *Robert Murray*, Sir *James Lockart* of *Lie*, the Lairds of *Haltoun* and *Nidderie*, and Sir *Robert Murray* of *Prieſtfield*, did among many other Propoſals, offer to His *Majeſty* this following Article:

THat ſuch Noblemen and Gentlemen, Heretors and Fewars, who ſhall ſubſcribe Bonds for Blank Sums of Money for themſelves, and their reſpective Tenents and Servants, to keep the Peace, the ſaid Noblemen, Gentlemen, Heretors and Fewars, for their Relief and Security ſhall have Power and Warrant to take Bonds from their Tenants and Servants, for Blank Sums of Money, not to riſe in Arms againſt, or without the Kings Authority, and not to buy any Arms, or keep Horſes above the value of threeſcore pounds Scots, with power to diſarm their Tenants: And if they refuſe to give Bands as ſaid is, In that caſe, if they have no Tacks or Rentals, that they remove them from their Poſſeſſions; and if they have ſtanding Tacks or Rentals for years yet to run, that they raiſe Letters, and charge them for that effect, under the Signet of the Privy Council, for which theſe ſhall be a ſufficient Warrant to the Clerk thereof, to grant the ſame, and ſhall cauſe to denounce them Rebels, and put them to the Horn; whereupon it is declared, That their Maſters ſhall have the Gift of their ſingle or Life-rent Eſcheat, gratis, in ſo far as may be extended to the Rooms and Poſſeſſions belonging to their Maſters.

The preceeding Proclamations and Propoſals, are Extracted out of the Records of the Privy Council, by me

Al. Gibſon, Cl. Sti. Concilii.